

Internet is a powerful, global technology which is changing our society in ways we don't fully understand, and raising complex legal and policy issues we have rarely, if ever, confronted. My sense is that Members of Congress should probably spend more time trying to learn about the complex and technical issues surrounding the Internet before trying to regulate it.

INCREASED MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCES FOR CRIMINALS POSSESSING FIREARMS

SPEECH OF

HON. JON CHRISTENSEN

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 424.

In the 104th Congress, I introduced the Hard Time for Gun Crimes Act of 1996, which made it clear that anyone who commits a felony with a gun should plan on spending the next few decades behind bars—no exceptions.

I am elated that the Leadership has adopted the basis of my bill and incorporated it into this legislation before us today. By adding stiffer penalties for crimes committed with guns, we'll be able to keep those who prey upon our society behind bars where they belong.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this very important piece of legislation, as it will make our homes and neighborhoods safer places to live.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY ON NATIONAL TRIO DAY 1998

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 1998

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, Saturday, February 28, 1998, Chicago State University, a premier institution of higher learning in the First Congressional District, will be celebrating its annual TRIO Day. Congress established TRIO as a federally funded educational program in 1965 to serve disadvantaged first generation college students. This day recognizes the needs of disadvantaged youth and adults aspiring to improve their lives. TRIO Day also reminds us of the federal investment that we must continue to make to ensure that these individuals fulfill their potential and develop as productive members of our communities and of our country.

TRIO programs have proven effective in helping low-income students to succeed in higher education. The activities that TRIO promotes create real opportunities and address the "invisible" barriers of class, race, and culture. TRIO helps students to overcome those academic and social barriers that may pose difficulties for them in a formal educational setting.

TRIO programs truly work. Funding for TRIO supports a range of pro-active interventions to assist students. These include Upward Bound, Student Support Services, Talent Search, Educational Opportunity Centers, and the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement program. TRIO helps students in

the following areas: choosing a college; tutoring; personal and financial counseling; career counseling; workplace and college visits; assistance in obtaining financial aid; and academic assistance in high school or assistance to re-enter high school and college.

Congress can see the positive outcomes from TRIO programs. An estimated two million students have graduated college with TRIO support. Additionally, TRIO has helped to reduce defaults in the federal student loan program by helping low-income Americans to understand their financial aid obligations and to avoid institutions that may promise more than they can deliver.

I salute Chicago State University's tireless efforts to open its doors to TRIO-eligible students. Their ongoing partnership with local schools, businesses, and other community based organizations ensures that TRIO funds will impact students of diverse backgrounds.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this body join me in saluting Chicago State University on the occasion of National Annual TRIO Day. I am proud to work on behalf of TRIO not only for Chicago State University students, but all disadvantaged students in our nation so they might fulfill their goals for higher education and lifelong learning.

REPRESENTATIVE MEEK HONORS RED MUMFORD, WESTSIDE PROPERTY OWNERS' COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 1998

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, February 19, 1998, the North Miami Westside Property Owners' Association recognized the contributions made to the community by Mr. Red Mumford, a resident of my district. I rise today to add my praises and bring to the attention of my colleagues the outstanding examples of his community activism.

With his signature crown of auburn hair, Red, as his friends know him, has lived in the City of North Miami for 29 years. Most recently, he has served as president of the Westside Property Owners' Association, tackling neighborhood problems like the Pepper Park Rock Pit and the noise caused by area adult entertainment clubs. His eagle eye has kept watch over the city council and he has led the charge on countless issues of importance.

Personally, Red has enjoyed continued support from his wife, Joyce, who is a community activist of her own merit. They are never far apart, even when Red is playing his saxophone with his own jazz band.

What speaks loudest about the man, however, are those actions which go largely unnoticed by the general public. Though his children have grown, Red continues to act as a positive role model for the kids in his neighborhood. He set up a trampoline in his yard and a basketball net in his driveway. He even allows the kids to swim in the family pool. In a world where neighbors continually grow more distant, Red goes out of his way to provide constructive activities for those children fortunate to live in his area. Never once has he asked for anything in return.

I am proud to have a man of the stature of Red Mumford living in my congressional district. His years of hard work have not gone unnoticed by his friends and family. I wish him continued success in all his endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO CAPT. JOHN HOGAN ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE POSITION OF CHIEF COUNSEL OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

HON. ROBERT SMITH

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a man whose love for his country and its farmers stands as a far greater testament to his character than mere words ever could. John Hogan, Captain, United States Naval Reserve, retired from the position of Chief Counsel to the House Committee on Agriculture on January 31, 1998. His retirement marks a great loss to this Committee, which will surely miss his unrivaled knowledge of America's agricultural laws and policies.

Captain Hogan came to Washington D.C. in 1969 when he joined the staff of the House Committee on the District of Columbia. His boss was the Ranking Republican, Congressman Archer Nelson, from John's home state of Minnesota. Alas, farming ran in John's blood, so in 1975 he moved to the House Committee on Agriculture where he served as Associate Counsel. In 1979 he was promoted to Minority Counsel and then, with the Republican majority in 1995, John became Chief Counsel to the Committee. In this position he has ably served both myself and my immediate predecessor, now Senator PAT ROBERTS, as well as three different Republican Ranking Members.

Mr. Speaker, this Irish-American son of the soil still owns the same farm in Janesville, Minnesota that was homesteaded by his family many years ago. Yet, while dreams of dairy cows and topsoil may have danced in his head, he was so committed to his job that for almost everyday of his long career he was the first one into and the last one out of the office. Because of this, it was often remarked by his co-workers that John never left, but in fact evidence that he did from time to time leave his desk can be found in the impressive list of academic achievements he has compiled. Captain Hogan owns a Bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota, an LLB from George Washington University, an LLM from Georgetown, and an MBA from American University.

John put this knowledge to work, and America's farm laws reflect his tremendous understanding of what it takes to keep America the breadbasket of the world.

America's farm communities could not have asked for a better friend or more dedicated servant than Captain Hogan. His long and distinguished career is a remarkable testament to a remarkable man. Mr. Speaker, I know that this whole body rises with me to say to John Hogan, Captain, you have left this Committee better than you found it; you have given of yourself, so that others might have more to receive; you have set an example that others may try to emulate, though equal it they never can. For all you have done, this body and your country thanks you. Have a happy retirement.